**Olivia McConney Obituary for Louis Pasteur MYP4 15 October 2010**

**Final Assessment Task – Who was the Greatest - Pasteur, Lister or Simpson?**

Read the Information about Simpson, Lister and Pasteur in particular. Decide which one you think was the most influential in the development of medicine during the industrial Revolution.

Intro for Freddy’s favorite singer’s obituary. 

[Michael Jackson](http://www.guardian.co.uk/music/michaeljackson), the self-styled King of Pop, who has died suddenly aged 50 after being taken to hospital in Los Angeles, was music royalty – one of its biggest stars and holder, for Thriller, of the record for the best-selling album in history. Eventually, however, his bizarre life-style and personal notoriety eclipsed his talent and his numerous achievements.

You will be writing an obituary for this person to commemorate his life.

* This link is for some current obituaries to show how they are reported. <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/obituaries/>

The things that an obituary should have are:

* A photo / drawing of the person.
* **Intro paragraph: …..** died on … at the age of …. He/ she will be remembered for their contribution to the advancement of medical knowledge. Then any other simple info to get people interested in reading on about the life and achievement of this great person.
* **Early life:** Family and schooling and how this might have had an effect on this person’s later life and achievements.
* **Professional Life:** Started where – studied where. What were the things this person did that led up to their main achievements
* **Their major achievement/s:** What will this person be known for. What was the situation leading up to their work. Was it chance. Was it the result of a lifetime of work. Was their work recognized in their lifetime or did it have greater effect later on?
* **Family life:** marriage, children. Their death and who they will be survived by.
* **After this:** You need to write a paragraph or two of your own to say why you think this persons contribution was the most important . Here you need to back up your answers with evidence, referring to your research, texts, quotes etc.
* **As ever:** all sources of information need to be documented properly.



Louis Pasteur was born on December 27 1822 and died on September 28, 1895 at the age of 73. He was born in Dole, France. He will be remembered for his contribution to the advancement of medical knowledge because of his discovery of germs. He is responsible for a number of scientific advances such as developing vaccines in its early stages.

Louis Pasteur was the third child of Jean-Joseph and Jeanne Roqui. He attended École Primaire. Even during his childhood Pasteur wanted to be a chemist even though he used to help out his father at a tannery. Sometimes when he was 5 years old he would watch a local chemist in his town making medicines. Pasteur loved drawing from an early age and this helped him when he was older to draw what he saw under the microscope. One experience which made him realize that he wanted to become a chemist and biologist was when one of his friends was bitten by a dog and got rabies. She almost died from it but people just thought it was just disease, no way to prevent it because it just happened. It was then that Pasteur realized that it was not just disease and that there was a reason that she got rabies. He was given a good education because his father wanted him to be educated properly. One of Louis Pasteur’s mentors was a chemist named Jean- Baptiste Dumas who taught at Pasteur’s college in Paris called Ecôle Normale. He returned home though because he became extremely homesick.

Louis Pasteur graduated from Collège Royal de Besançon in during 1842 with a bachelor’s degree in science. He then went on to study at Ecôle Normale in 1843. The thesis he wrote to get into Ecôle Normale was on crystallography. While he was at the school he was granted a leave of absence to go and study how crystals affect light. His work became popular and he was awarded the Copley Medal. He also became a member of Britain’s Royal Society and Legion of Honor. In 1852 was made chairman of the chemistry unit at the University of Strasbourg and it was there that he started to study fermentation. In 1854 he was made professor of sciences at the University of Lille. It was while he was teaching there that someone who produced vinegar came to Pasteur and told him that his vinegar was spoiling. He wanted to know what was happening and how it could be prevented. Pasteur examined the vinegar and told the producer that he should heat the vinegar. This would stop the yeast from growing causing the vinegar not to spoil faster. This method of heating was eventually named pasteurization. He shared his findings with the world but people were against him. They made fun of him but he kept going, continuing to do his experiments so that he could show and prove to everyone that he was correct.

During 1865 Louis Pasteur was asked to go to a silk industry because an epidemic was ruining it. He brought along his microscope and found that it was a living organism which was causing the problem. He soon realized that microorganisms could affect not just drinks or silk worms but it could also affect people.

Louis Pasteur will be remembered for a number of his achievements. One of his main achievements was finding out what caused disease and what made drinks like beer go bad. It is because of him spending time researching and not giving up when people told him he would not succeed that we now know about microorganisms. Since Louis Pasteur realized that to kill these microorganisms you need to heat up the liquid we are now able to have milk last longer. It just has to go through a method called pasteurization. If Pasteur had listened to people when they said that he would not succeed and that he should stop doing his experiments then we might not have had any of his knowledge to help us scientifically now. Through studying germs and how they affect humans, Louis Pasteur was able to come up with a vaccination for rabies. He was also able to come up with a vaccine against chicken cholera. This he found through chance. He was asked to go to a chicken farm that had chicken cholera and try to find a way to solve the problem. He did not do well but during the time that his offices were closed during the summer of 1879 some of the chick cholera bacteria was exposed in the air. The bacterium was then weakened and when it was injected in the chickens it had no effect. If it had not been for the holiday and exposed bacteria then we might not have a vaccine against chicken cholera. During an outbreak of anthrax, Pasteur began to heat the anthrax germs and injected the weak disease into animals so that their bodies could start becoming immune to the illness. This procedure of injecting someone with a weaker version of an illness is called inoculation. His work was recognized during his lifetime but not always at the time that he was conducting his experiments. People were not to open to accepting his theory that germs caused food to go bad or that they caused disease. Once they realized that he was correct though, they were more willing to listen to what he had to say. His work affects us now because we know what causes disease and how we can avoid it. We know how to make food last longer using pasteurization.

On May 29, 1849 Louis Pasteur married Marie Laurent. Marie Laurent was born on January 15, 1826. She was the daughter of the Rector of Strasbourg Academy. Together Louis and Marie had five children. Unfortunately only two lived to adulthood. Between 1859 and 1865 three of his daughters died. Two died from typhoid and one died from a brain tumor. Louis Pasteur suffered a stroke in 1868 which resulted in him becoming partially paralyzed on his left side. In 1895 he suffered more strokes which resulted in him dying. He is buried in the cathedral of Notre- Dame in Paris. The little boy who Louis Pasteur saved from dying of rabies was a guard at Pasteur’s tomb.

I think that Louis Pasteur’s contributions were most important to science because he discovered what causes illness and disease. Through this discovery we are able to find cures to illnesses just based on knowing what causes them. He showed us that through inoculation we can make someone become immune to a disease. This way if they catch the illness one day they will not die because their body is already immune to the illness. I also think that his discovery on how to kill bacteria has helped us because we can now make food and drinks and not worry about it going bad the next day. I believe that he was very strong not to give up when people brought him down with their comments and that he will always be remembered through his work .He was fully committed to finding ways to help people and even on his death bed he was still thinking of work. He said “One must work; one must work. I have done what I could.”   
  
**REFERENCES:**

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